such , disruption of postal services, particularly in those places which are located in the difficult terrains of the country?.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The staff unions in the North Eastern Region went on strike for 38 days from 15.11.1991 to 22.12.9191 due to non-payment of special duty allowance to Group 'C' and 'D' employees in the Region.

(c) During the period of strike, essential skeleton Postal Services were provided to people with the help of Home Guards, Volunteers and supervisory staff.

(d) It has been the endeavour of the Government to provide Postal Services without any distruption to all areas including the places which are located in difficult terrains. Joint Consultative Machinery and Compulsory, Arbitration has been provided for redressal of employees' grievances.

Strike by post office employees in the capital

79. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the postal employees in many post offices went on a lightening strike in December, 1991 disrupting postal services in the capital,

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) what remedial action Government have taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) A section of the postal employees of South West Division went on a strike between 19th December to 21st December, 1991 due to which delivery of mail was partially affected in that Division.

(b) The Sub-Postmaster of Hauz Khas Post Office was transferred due to his inept handling of the postal staff which resulted in an unpleasant incident on 18.12.91 involving a member of the public who had come to the post office with a complaint. The staff on strike were demanding cancellation of transfer orders. This was not agreed to. The strike was unconditionally withdrawn by the staff members on 21.12.1991 after intervention by Senior Postal Officers.

(c) It is the endeavour of the Government to ensure that disruption in the postal services is avoided. The Joint Consultative Machinery and Compulsory Arbitration has been provided for redressal of employees' grievances.

ग्राम-पंचायतों में दूरभाष सुविधायें

80. **कुमारी आलिया:** क्या **संचार** मंत्री 13 दिसम्बर, 1991 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न 2322 के दिये गये उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि वर्ष 1991-92 के दौरान अयोध्या और फैजाबाद जिलों की कितनी पंचायतों में दूरभाष सुविधा उपलब्ध करायी गई है?

संचार मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री पी॰वी॰ रंगैया नायडु): वर्ष 1991-92 के दौरान, अयोध्या सहित फैजाबाद जिले की सात ग्राम पंचायतों में टेलीफोन सुविधा प्रदान की जा चुकी है।

Adoption of new work culture by Telecom Sector

81. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telecom sector proposes to adopt a new work culture;

(b) is so, what are the main features thereof; and

(c) the manner in which it will improve the efficiency of the telecommunication sector and cut the delays and costs?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Improving work culture is a continuous process. The main features, in brief, are introduction of latest technology in the telecommunications